

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE  
PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A method for controlling odor associated with deposits  
of organic material which can cause odors on surfaces, the  
method comprising applying to the surface a composition  
comprising one or more adhering agents and a preparation of  
dormant bacteria, which when activated are effective to  
control odors, the dormant bacterial preparation being  
allowed to become associated with surface such that when  
the surface is subsequently exposed to organic material  
which can cause odors, the bacteria are capable of becoming  
active and digesting the organic material.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the dormant  
bacteria are sporulated forms of one or more strains  
selected from the bacterial genera Bacillus.
3. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the dormant  
bacteria are sporulated forms of one or more strains  
selected from the group of bacterial species consisting  
essentially of Bacillus megaterium, Bacillus pasteurii,  
Bacillus laevolacticus and Bacillus amyloliquefaciens.
4. A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the dormant  
bacteria are applied to the surface at a concentration of  
between about  $10^6$  and about  $10^8$  cells per square inch of  
surface.
5. A method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the dormant  
bacteria are applied to the carpet at a concentration of  
about  $10^7$  cells per square inch of surface.

6. A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the dormant bacterial preparation comprises:

		<u>% of total bacteria</u>
5	<u>Species</u>	<u>Range</u>
	<u>Bacillus megaterium</u>	5-60
	<u>Bacillus pasteurii</u>	10-40
	<u>Bacillus laevolacticus</u>	10-40
	<u>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</u>	10-40

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7. A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the dormant bacterial preparation comprises:

	<u>% of total bacteria</u>
<u>Species</u>	
15 <u>Bacillus megaterium</u>	40
<u>Bacillus pasteurii</u>	20
<u>Bacillus laevolacticus</u>	20
<u>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</u>	20

20 8. A method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the one or more  
adhering agents are one or more anti-soiling  
fluorochemicals or stain-blocking chemicals.

9. A method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the one or more  
25 stain-blocking chemicals are selected from the group  
consisting of sulfonated phenol formaldehyde condensate  
polymer, sulfonated naphthol formaldehyde condensate  
polymer, and hydrolyzed vinyl aromatic maleic anhydride  
polymer.

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10. A method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the one or more adhering agents are one or more anti-soiling fluorochemicals.

35 11. A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the bacterial preparation further includes one or more odor neutralizing or trapping agents selected from sodium bicarbonate and molecular sieves.

12. An aqueous odor controlling bacterial composition for  
surfaces to impart odor control to the surface, the  
composition comprising one or more adhering agents and an  
5 effective amount of dormant odor controlling bacteria.

13. An aqueous odor controlling bacterial composition as  
claimed in claim 12 wherein the dormant bacteria are one or  
more strains selected from the group of bacterial genera  
10 consisting of Bacillus, Enterobacter, Streptococcus,  
Nitrosomonas, Nitrobacter, Pseudomonas, Alcaligenes and  
Klebsiella.

14. An aqueous odor controlling bacterial composition as  
15 claimed in claim 13 wherein the dormant bacteria are one or  
more strains selected from the group of bacterial species  
consisting essentially of Bacillus megaterium Bacillus  
pasteurii, Bacillus laevolacticus and Bacillus  
amyloliquefaciens.

15. An aqueous odor controlling bacterial composition as  
claimed in claim 14 wherein the dormant bacteria are for  
application to the surface at a concentration of between  
about 10<sup>6</sup> and about 10<sup>8</sup> cells per square inch of surface.

16. An aqueous odor controlling bacterial composition as  
claimed in claim 14 wherein the dormant bacterial  
preparation comprises:

	<u>% of total bacteria</u>	
30	<u>Species</u>	<u>Range</u>
	<u>Bacillus megaterium</u>	5-60
	<u>Bacillus pasteurii</u>	10-40
	<u>Bacillus laevolacticus</u>	10-40
	<u>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</u>	10-40

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22. A carpet as claimed in claim 21 wherein the bacteria are one or more strains selected from the group of bacterial genera Bacillus.

- 5 23. A carpet as claimed in claim 22 wherein the bacteria are one or more strains selected from the group of bacterial species consisting essentially of Bacillus megaterium, Bacillus pasteurii, Bacillus laevolacticus and Bacillus amyloliquefaciens.

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24. A carpet as claimed in claim 23 wherein the dormant bacteria are applied to the carpet at a concentration of between about 10<sup>6</sup> and about 10<sup>8</sup> cells per square inch gram of carpet fiber.

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25. A carpet as claimed in claim 24 wherein the dormant bacteria are applied to the carpet at a concentration of about 10<sup>7</sup> cells per square inch gram of carpet fiber.

- 20 26. A carpet as claimed in claim 25 wherein the dormant bacterial preparation comprises:

% of total bacteria

<u>Species</u>	<u>Range</u>
<u>Bacillus megaterium</u>	5-60
25 <u>Bacillus pasteurii</u>	10-40
<u>Bacillus laevolacticus</u>	10-40
<u>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</u>	10-40

- 27.. A carpet as claimed in claim 25 wherein the dormant  
30 bacterial preparation comprises:

% of total bacteria

<u>Species</u>	
<u>Bacillus megaterium</u>	40
<u>Bacillus pasteurii</u>	20
35 <u>Bacillus laevolacticus</u>	20
<u>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</u>	20

28. A carpet as claimed in claim 25 wherein the carpet has also been treated with one or more stain-blocking chemicals.

5 29. A carpet as claimed in claim 28 wherein the one or more stain-blocking chemicals are selected from the group consisting of sulfonated phenol formaldehyde condensate polymer, sulfonated naphthol formaldehyde condensate polymer, and hydrolyzed vinyl aromatic maleic anhydride  
10 polymer.

30. A carpet as claimed in claim 29 wherein the preparation contains an amount of the stain blocker to result in a treatment rate of the carpet of about 0.1 wt% to about 20  
15 wt% based upon the weight of the carpet fiber.

31. A carpet as claimed in claim 30 wherein the treatment rate is from about 0.25 wt% to about 20 wt%.

20 32. A carpet as claimed in claim 31 wherein the carpet has also been treated with one or more anti-soil fluorochemicals.